

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 499

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Tim Priest upon his induction into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as exceptional athletes and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Tim Priest, who will be inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame this year, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding accomplishments in the arena of sports as a student-athlete during his time at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK); and

WHEREAS, a native of Huntingdon, Mr. Priest graduated from Huntingdon High School in 1967; his athletic prowess earned him a scholarship to play football and further his education at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Tim Priest starred as a defensive standout for the University of Tennessee Volunteers (Vols) football team in the late 1960s and early 1970s; a three-year letterman from 1968 until 1970, he was a starter at defensive back on the 1969 Southeastern Conference (SEC) championship team and displayed his leadership abilities as captain of the 1970 team that posted an 11-1 record; and

WHEREAS, as an All-SEC defensive back, Mr. Priest excelled at his position, and he still is the Vols all-time career interception leader with eighteen; Mr. Priest still cherishes the 1970 victory over arch-rival Alabama as his greatest memory while playing for the University of Tennessee; posting three interceptions in the game, he helped lead the Vols to a 24-0 victory over the Crimson Tide; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding student as well, Mr. Priest was a GTE Academic All-American and garnered All-SEC Academic honors in 1969 and 1970; after receiving the NCAA Post Graduate Scholarship Award for his academic excellence, he earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law; and

WHEREAS, currently practicing law in Knoxville, Mr. Priest is an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who works assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he serves with acumen and alacrity as an attorney, and he has earned the respect of his colleagues and clients alike for his exceptional ability and expertise; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his legal practice, Mr. Priest also lends his vast football knowledge and expertise to the radio airwaves by serving as the color commentator for the Vol Network broadcast team on football Saturdays during the fall; his knowledge of the game and love for his alma mater have added greatly to the broadcasts of the University of Tennessee football games; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Tim Priest is most appreciative of the love and support of his wife, Betsy Priest; and their two children, Adam and Laura; and

WHEREAS, Tim Priest, a man of true character and commitment, exemplifies dedication and leadership, and he is admired by his fellow Tennesseans for his tireless efforts to excel, always guided by solid principles and high standards, whether in the athletic arena or in the actions of his daily life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join with the family, friends, and colleagues of Tim Priest in congratulating him upon his induction into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame, commend him for his substantial legacy as a student-athlete, attorney, and radio analyst, and offer our deep appreciation for the dedication that he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.